

Read Chapters 7-8 and answer the following question. You may use information from previous chapters to help you complete the question.

Okonkwo is repeatedly associated with fire in the novel *Things Fall Apart*. Fire is a destructive force that consumes but does not beget. Your assignment is to write a one to two page (typed/double spaced) analysis of Okonkwo's destructive behavior in chapters one through eight. In your analysis discuss the symbolism of fire as well as alternatives to Okonkwo's chauvinistic behavior that Achebe presents the reader with via his other male characters in the book. Be sure to form a strong thesis or opinion in regards to Okonkwo's view of masculinity.